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COMMUNICATION OF 29 MAY 1998 RECEIVED FROM THE PERMANENT MISSION OF JAPAN TO THE INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY

Attached is a communication received from the Permanent Mission of Japan, forwarding statements by the Chief Cabinet Secretary of the Government of Japan, for the information of Member States.

For reasons of economy, this document has been printed in a limited number.

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29 May 1998

Sir,

I have the honour to submit to you herewith comments by the Chief Cabinet Secretary of Japan regarding Pakistan's nuclear testing.

I would greatly appreciate it if the Agency could distribute these documents to all Member States.

Accept, Sir, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Enc.: As Noted

Yuji Ikeda

Resident Representative
of Japan to the
International Atomic Energy Agency

Mr. Mohamed Elbaradei
Director General
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Comments by the Chief Cabinet Secretary on the Nuclear Testing conducted by Pakistan

1. On 28 May, after 7p.m in Japanese time, Pakistan conducted underground nuclear tests. In the wake of the Indian nuclear testing, Japan has repeatedly demanded Pakistan to exercise its utmost restraint by sending a special envoy to Islamabad with a letter of Prime Minister Hashimoto. Prime Minister Hashimoto also made a direct phone call to Prime Minister Sharif, urging Pakistan to excercise restraint. It is extermely regrettable that Pakistan has conducted its nuclear testing in defiance of the earnest demands from the international community including Japan.

Japan would not tolerate the Pakistani nuclear testing, because it would exacerbate the crisis of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation which was already been affected by the Indian nuclear tests, and greatly harm the stability of the region. Japan urges Pakistan to stop its nuclear development and testing, and to become party to the CTBT and the NPT, while calling upon the international society to unite in addressing this crisis of nuclear disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation.

2. Facing this situation, Foreign Minister Keizo Obuchi will summon Miss.Kureshi, Charge d'affaires of Pakistan in Tokyo at 11p.m on 28 May, and will explain Japan's position, and convey the message to the Pakistani Government.

The Government of Japan has quickly begun serious consideration to take necessary measures to Pakistan.

(END)

(Unofficial Translation)

Comments by the Chief Cabinet Secretary on Measures in Response to Nuclear Testing Conducted by Pakistan

29 May. 1998

1. It is extremely deplorable that Pakistan conducted nuclear testing on 28 May. despite the sincere effort by the international society including Japan to urge Pakistan to exercise restraint. On the same day, Mr. Keizo Obuchi, Minister for Foreign Affairs, summoned Miss D. S. Kureshi, Charge d'Affaires ad interim of Pakistan to Japan, strongly protested the testing, and urged Pakistan to immediately cease nuclear testing and development of nuclear weapons.

2. This nuclear testing by Pakistan was conducted in defiance of the effort by the international society to seek a world free from nuclear weapons, and therefore can never be tolerated. Japan urges Pakistan to immediately cease nuclear testing and development of nuclear weapons, reiterating its demand that India and Pakistan not commence a dangerous nuclear arms race and conclude NPT and CTBT unconditionally. Furthermore, in multilateral fora such as the United Nations Security Council, Japan will actively deal with the issues of firmly maintaining non-proliferation regime and sustaining peace in South Asia.

3. Therefore, the Government has decided to take the following measures in view of the principle of the ODA Charter;

(1) Grant aid for new projects will be frozen, except emergency and humanitarian aid and Grant Assistance for Grassroots Projects.

(2) Yen-loan to Pakistan for new projects will be frozen.

(3) The Government will cautiously examine the loan programs to Pakistan by international financial institutions.

4. Japan is also determined to maintain its strict control on transfers of items and technologies related to weapons of mass-destruction to Pakistan.

(End of Comments)